

Appendix C.

Statistical Methodology

MAIL LIST MODEL

Classification analysis was performed to predict the probability that an addressee on the 1992 mail list operated a farm, and thereby separated the preliminary mail list into probable farm and probable nonfarm classes. The analysis was used to reduce the preliminary census mail list of 3.78 million records to a final mail list size of 3.55 million records. All 3.55 million addresses on the final mail list received a census of agriculture report form.

Records from the 1987 final census mail list were used to build a 1992 prediction model for the 1992 analysis. Classification and Regression Trees (CART) software analyzed characteristics of known 1987 farm and nonfarm operations to determine which were most useful in predicting farm and nonfarm classes. Record characteristics such as the source of the mail list record, number of source lists on which the record appeared, expected value of agricultural sales, and geographic location were used to separate mail list records into model groups. (Sources included the previous agriculture census mail list, the Internal Revenue Service administrative records, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and special commodity lists.) The proportion of 1987 census farm records in each model group was calculated to provide an estimate of the probability that an addressee in the group operated a farm.

After the model groups were defined, each address record on the 1992 preliminary mail list was assigned to a model group by matching record characteristics to model group characteristics. Records belonging to the groups with the highest farm probability were those more likely to be farms according to the classification tree methodology. The model, followed by analyst reviews, was used to remove 229,700 records from the preliminary mail list (those in model groups with the lowest farm probability), and thereby designated the 3.55 million records with the highest farm probability to receive the census report form. This procedure was used to obtain a more complete census enumeration of farm operations without excessive respondent burden and data collection cost.

CENSUS SAMPLE DESIGN

Each of the 3.55 million name and address records on the census mail list was designated to receive one of three different types of census report forms. The three forms were the nonsample form, the screener form, and the

sample form. Sections 1 through 20 and 27 through 32 of the sample form are identical to sections on the nonsample form. The sample form, sections 21 through 26, contains additional questions on usage of fertilizers and chemicals, farm production expenditures, value of machinery and equipment, value of land and buildings, and farm-related income. The screener form is identical to the nonsample form with questions added in section 1 to allow quick identification of nonfarm addresses. These three different forms were used to reduce the response burden of the census, while providing reliable information on a large number of data items.

The sample form was mailed to all mail list records in Alaska, Hawaii, and Rhode Island, and to a sample of records in other States selected from the final mail list. Addresses were selected into the sample with certainty (1) if they were expected to have large total value of agricultural products sold or large acreage, (2) if they were multiunit operations (i.e., separate farms in more than one location), (3) if they had other special characteristics, or (4) if they were in a county with less than 100 farms in 1987. Other addresses in counties containing 100 to 199 farms in 1987 were systematically sampled at a rate of 1 in 2, and other addresses in counties containing 200 farms or more in 1987 were systematically sampled at a rate of 1 in 6. This differential sampling scheme was used to provide reliable data for the sample sections of the report form for all counties. When a nonsample large farm was identified during processing, a supplemental form that contained the additional sample data inquiries was mailed.

To determine which mail list records would receive the screener form, all mail list records not designated for the sample were sorted by model group farm probability as specified by the mail list model. The 412,000 mail list records in the model groups with the lowest probability of being farms and with an expected total value of agricultural product sales less than \$25,000 were designated to receive the screener report form. The remaining mail list records received the nonsample report form.

CENSUS ESTIMATION

The 1992 Census of Agriculture used two types of statistical estimation procedures. These estimation procedures accounted for nonresponse to the data collection and for the sample data collection. These procedures are necessary because some farm operators never respond to

The first step in the estimation procedure was to classify the sample records into 32 mutually exclusive initial post strata formed by the three sets of groups. The total and sample farm counts were expanded to account for nonresponse. Each cell containing sample farm records was assigned an initial sample weight equal to the ratio of the total farm count to the sample farm count. This weight was approximately equal to the inverse of the probability of selecting a farm for the census sample.

The second step in the estimation procedure was to combine, if necessary, the 32 initial post strata to increase the reliability of the ratio estimation procedure. Any stratum that contained less than 10 sample farms after nonresponse adjustment or had a weight greater than two times the mail sample rate was collapsed with another stratum. The mail sample rate was either 2 or 6, depending on whether the county had a 1 in 2 or 1 in 6 sample selection rate. The collapsing occurred within the initial 32 post strata according to a specified collapsing pattern. After the collapsing process was completed, new total farm counts and sample farm counts were computed from each of the final post strata and were used to calculate final sample weights.

The final step consisted of assigning the noninteger final post stratum weight to the sample farm records in each post stratum. The weight is the ratio of total farm count to sample farm count in each final post stratum. The noninteger sample weight, the product of the noninteger final post stratum weight and the nonresponse weight, was randomly rounded to an integer weight for tabulation. If, for example, the final weight for the farms in a particular post stratum was 7.2, then 0.2 or one-fifth of the sample farms in this post stratum were randomly assigned a weight of 8 and the remaining four-fifths received a weight of 7.

CENSUS SAMPLING ERROR

The sample for the 1992 Census of Agriculture is only one of a large number of possible samples of the same size that could have been selected using the same sample design. Sample refers to the sample for both the nonresponse survey and the selection of farms to receive the sample report forms. Estimates derived from all the possible samples would differ from each other only by random variation.

The standard error or sampling error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among the estimates from all possible samples and thus is a measure of the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The percent relative standard error of an estimate is defined as 100 times the standard error of the estimate divided by the value of the estimate.

If all possible samples were selected, each of the samples were surveyed under essentially the same conditions, and an estimate and its standard error were calculated from each sample, then:

1. Approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.65 standard errors below the estimate to 1.65 standard errors above the estimate would include the average value of all possible samples.
2. Approximately 95 percent of the intervals from 1.96 standard errors below the estimate to 1.96 standard errors above the estimate would include the average value of all possible samples.

The following example illustrates the computations necessary for producing a confidence interval for an estimate. Assume that the estimate of number of farms for a State is 94,382 and the relative standard error of the estimate is .1 percent (0.001). Multiplying 94,382 by 0.001 yields 94, the standard error; therefore, a 90-percent confidence interval is 94,227 to 94,537 (i.e., 94,382 plus or minus 1.65 x 94). If corresponding confidence intervals were constructed for all possible samples of the same size and design, approximately 90 percent of these intervals would contain the figure obtained from a complete enumeration. Similarly, a 95-percent confidence interval is 94,198 to 94,566 (i.e., 94,382 plus or minus 1.96 x 94).

Census items were classified as either complete count or sample count items. Complete count items were asked of all farm operators. Examples of complete count items were land in farms, harvested cropland, livestock inventory and sales, crop acreage, quantities harvested and crop sales, land use, irrigation, government loans and payments, conservation acreage, type of organization, and operator characteristics.

Sample count items were asked only of a sample of farm operators. These items appeared only in sections 21 through 26 of the sample report form. Sample count items were included under the following section headings: commercial fertilizers, chemicals, production expenses, farm machinery and equipment, value of land and buildings, and farm-related income.

Variability, measured as percent relative standard error, in the estimates of complete count items is due only to the nonresponse survey estimation procedure. Variability in the estimates of sample count items is due to both the nonresponse survey estimation procedure and the census sample selection and estimation procedure. Thus, variability in the sample count item estimates tends to be larger than the variability in the complete count item estimates.

Table B provides the generalized reliability estimates of the estimated number of farms in a county reporting complete count and sample count items. The top half of the table shows the percent relative standard error for estimated number of farms in a county reporting a complete count item and the bottom half a sample count item. These are derived from regression equations. Separate regression equations were used for complete count items and sample count items. Each regression equation was fit with the estimated number of farms in a county reporting an item as the independent variable and the relative variance of that estimate as the dependent variable for all counties in the State. For sample count items, only data

from counties sampled at a rate of 1 in 6 are used in the estimation of the regression equation.

Table B. Reliability Estimates for Number of Farms in a County Reporting a Complete Count Item or Sample Count Item: 1992

Farms	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)
COMPLETE COUNT ITEM	
Number of farms reporting:	
25	5.8
50	4.0
75	3.2
100	2.7
150	2.1
200	1.7
300	1.2
500	.5
750	.4
1,000	.3
1,500	.3
2,000	.2
SAMPLE COUNT ITEM	
Number of farms reporting:	
25	28.7
50	22.1
75	19.3
100	17.8
150	16.2
200	15.3
300	14.3
500	13.5
750	13.1
1,000	12.9
1,500	12.7
2,000	12.6

To illustrate the use of this table, assume that the estimate of the number of farms reporting hogs and pigs for a particular county, as given in county table 15, is 89. Since hogs and pigs is a complete count data item, refer to the first part of table B and use the estimated percent relative standard error of the estimate from the row with farm count equal to or just less than the estimated number of farms, 89. For this example, the percent relative standard error of the estimate comes from the row for 75 farms reporting. For sample count items, follow the same procedure using the second part of table B. For counties with fewer than 100 farms in the 1987 Census of Agriculture, variability in sample count item estimates comes only from nonresponse survey estimation procedures; thus, the estimated relative standard error for a sample count item in these counties may be obtained using the first part of table B.

Table C presents the percent relative standard error of selected State data items for all farms, and table D presents the percent relative standard error of selected State data items for all farms with sales of \$10,000 or more.

Table E presents the percent standard error for percent change in State totals from 1987 to 1992. The general

purpose of the percent change estimate is to provide a relative measure of the difference in a characteristic between censuses. The relative change for a given characteristic is defined as the ratio of the difference of the 1992 and the 1987 estimate for that characteristic to the 1987 estimate. This ratio is multiplied by 100 to obtain the percent change. The percent standard error of a percent change estimate, then, is the standard error of the ratio multiplied by 100.

Table F presents the percent relative standard error for State and county totals for selected data items. The percent relative standard error of the estimate for the same item differs among counties in the State. Reasons for this are differences among counties in (1) the total number of farms, (2) the number of large farms included with certainty, (3) the size classifications of the farms sampled, (4) the amount of nonresponse, (5) the general agricultural characteristics, and (6) the specific characteristic being measured.

CENSUS NONSAMPLING ERROR

The accuracy of the census counts are affected jointly by sampling errors, described in the previous section, and nonsampling errors. Extensive efforts were made to compile a complete and accurate mail list for the census, to design an understandable report form with instructions, and to minimize processing errors through the use of quality control measures on specific operations. Nonsampling errors arise from incompleteness of the census mail list, duplication in the mail list, incorrect data reporting, errors in editing of reported data, and errors in imputation for missing data. These specific nonsampling errors are further discussed in this section. Evaluation studies will be conducted to measure the extent of certain nonsampling errors such as coverage error and classification error.

Census Coverage

The main objective of the census of agriculture is to obtain a complete and accurate enumeration of U.S. farms with accurate data on all aspects of the agricultural operation. However, the high cost and availability of resources for enumeration place restrictions on feasible data collection methodologies. The past six agriculture censuses have been conducted by mail enumeration with telephone contact for selected nonrespondents. The completeness of such an enumeration thus depends to a large extent on the coverage of farm operations by the census mail list.

The past five censuses of agriculture have included approximately 91 percent of farms in the United States and approximately 96 percent of agriculture production. Complete enumeration of agricultural operations satisfying the farm definition of \$1,000 or more in agricultural sales is complicated by fluctuations in agricultural operations qualifying for enumeration, the variety of arrangements under which farms are operated, the multiplicity of names used

by an operation, the number of operations in which an operator participates, the accuracy of data reporting, and other factors. A new mail list is compiled for each census because no current single list of agricultural operations is comprehensive.

An evaluation of census coverage has been conducted for each census of agriculture since 1945. The evaluation provides estimates of the completeness of census farm count and major census data items. In addition, the evaluation helps to identify problems in the census enumeration and provide information that can form the basis for improvements. The results of the 1992 Coverage Evaluation program will be published in volume 2, Subject Series (Part 2): Coverage Evaluation.

The evaluation of coverage for the 1992 census was designed to measure four components of error in the census mail list and in farm classification. Mail list error includes two components of error, a measurement of farms not on the census mail list (undercount) and a measurement of farms enumerated more than once in the census (overcount). Classification error includes two components of error, a measurement of farms classified as nonfarms in the census (undercount) and of nonfarms classified as farms in the census (overcount). Classification error arises from reporting and processing errors. Mail list undercount dominates all coverage errors. Net coverage error is defined as the difference between undercounted and overcounted farms. Measurements of these errors, as well as a description of the complete coverage program, will be available in the Coverage Evaluation report.

Mail List Coverage

A major problem with mail enumeration for the census of agriculture is the difficulty encountered in compiling a complete mail list. The percentage of farms included on the census mail list varies considerably by State. Several reasons have contributed to farm operator names not being included on the census mail list—the operation may have been started after the mail list was developed, the operation may be so small as not to appear in any of the agriculture-related source lists used in compiling the census list, or the operation may have been falsely classified as a nonfarm prior to mailout. A large proportion of the farms not included on the mail list are small in both acres and sales of agricultural products.

The 1992 Census of Agriculture Coverage Evaluation used the area segment sample of the 1992 June Agricultural Survey (JAS) of the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) to estimate farms not on the census mail list. The Census Bureau contracted with NASS to augment the JAS data collection. The survey data collected by NASS will be protected under the confidentiality of title 13, U.S. Code. These JAS survey records were matched to the census mail list. Records that did not match were mailed a census of agriculture report form to estimate mail list

coverage. Estimates of farms not on the census mail list are computed using a capture-recapture dual frame estimator which will be described in the Coverage Evaluation report mentioned earlier.

Table G provides coverage evaluation estimates for one component of coverage error associated with the census of agriculture; that is, the error due to farms not on the census mail list. Also provided are estimates of selected characteristics of farms not on the mail list, estimates of characteristics of farms not on the mail list as a percentage of total farms in the State, and the percent relative standard error associated with each estimate. The estimate of total farms in the State is based on census farm count plus the estimated number of farms not on the census mail list. This estimate of total farms in the State was not adjusted for the components of error associated with classification and list duplication error. Estimates of these errors will be made at the regional, rather than the State level, and will be provided in the Coverage Evaluation report mentioned earlier.

Respondent and Enumerator Error

Incorrect or incomplete responses to the mailed census report form or to the questions posed by a telephone enumerator introduce error into the census data. Such incorrect information can lead, in some cases, to incorrect classification of farms. This type of reporting error is measured by the Classification Error Survey discussed later in this section. To reduce all types of reporting error, detailed instructions for completing the report form were provided to each addressee. Questions were phrased as clearly as possible based on tests of the census report form and each respondent's answers were checked for completeness and consistency.

Item Nonresponse

As information flows from data collection to tabulation, various types of item nonresponses are identified on the report forms. Nonresponse to particular questions on the report form that logically should be present may create a type of nonsampling error in both complete count and sample count data. When information from reporting farms is used to edit or impute for item nonresponse, the data may be biased due to characteristics of the nonreporting respondents differing from those reporting the item. Any attempt to correct the data items may not completely reflect this difference either at the element level (individual farm operation) or on the average.

Processing Error

All phases of processing for each report form are sources for the introduction of nonsampling error. The processing of the report forms includes clerical screening for farm activity, computerized check-in of report forms and follow-up of nonrespondents, keying and transmittal of

completed report forms, computerized editing of inconsistent and missing data, review and correction of individual records referred from the computer edit, review and correction of tabulated data, and electronic data processing. These operations undergo a number of quality control checks to ensure as accurate an application as possible, yet some errors are not detected and corrected.

Classification Error

An evaluation study of classification errors was conducted in the 1992 Census of Agriculture as part of the census coverage evaluation program. A sample of census mail list respondents was selected, and these addresses were reenumerated to determine whether they were a farm or nonfarm. A farm status determination was made based on the evaluation report form and compared with the census farm status which was based on the data reported on the report form. Differences in status were reconciled.

In past censuses, the proportion of farms undercounted due to classification errors was higher for farms with small values of sales. For the 1987 census, the classification error rate was higher for (1) farms with small values of sales, (2) farms with a small number of acres, (3) full-owner farms than part-owner or tenant farms, (4) operators with principal occupation other than farming, and (5) males than females. Results from the 1992 Classification Error Survey will be published in the Coverage Evaluation report.

EDITING DATA AND IMPUTATION FOR ITEM NONRESPONSE

The Census of Agriculture Complex Edit and Imputation System performs the following functions:

- Ensuring reasonable relationships between/among data items, values for various sizes of farms, and combinations of commodities.
- Ensuring necessary consistencies are present. There are more than 70 distinct consistency requirements.
- Ensuring geographic, legal, and physical constraints are met.

The system must perform these and similar functions for 900 data keycodes for sample records and 850 data keycodes for nonsample records.

For the 1992 Census of Agriculture, as in previous censuses, all reported data were keyed and then edited by computer. The edits were used to determine whether the reports met the minimum criteria to be counted as farms in the census. The complex edit and imputation system provided the basis for deciding to accept, impute (supply), delete, or alter the reported value for each data record item.

Whenever possible, edit imputations, deletions, and changes were based on component or related data on the respondent's report form. For some items, such as operator characteristics, data from the previous census were used when available. Values for other missing or unacceptable reported data items were calculated based on reported quantities and known price parameters.

When these and similar methods were not available and values had to be supplied, the imputation process used information reported for another farm operation in a geographically adjacent area with characteristics similar to those of the farm operation with incomplete data. For example, a farm operation that reported acres of corn harvested, but did not report quantity of corn harvested, was assigned the same bushels of corn per acre harvested as that of the last nearby farm with similar characteristics that reported acceptable yields during that particular execution of the computer edit. The imputation for missing items in each section of the report form was conducted separately; thus, assigned values for one operation could come from more than one respondent.

Prior to the imputation operation, a set of default values and relationships were assigned to the possible imputation variables. The relationships and values varied depending on the item being imputed. For example, different default values were assigned for several standard industrial classification and total value of sales categories when imputing hired farm labor expenses. These values and item relationships for the possible imputation variables were stored in the computer in a series of matrices.

Each execution of the computer edit consisted of records from only one State. The computer records were sorted by reported State and county. For a given execution of the edit, the stored entries in the various matrices were retained in memory only until a succeeding record having acceptable characteristics for some sections of the report form was processed by the computer. Then the acceptable responses of the succeeding operation replaced those previously stored. When a record processed through the edit had unreported or unacceptable data, the record was assigned the last acceptable ratio or response from an operation with a similar set of characteristics. Once each execution of the computer edit for a State was completed, the possible imputation variables were reset to the default values and relationships for subsequent executions.

After the initial computer edit, keyed reports not meeting the census farm definition were reviewed to ensure that the data were keyed correctly. Edit referrals were generated for about 25 percent of the reports included as farms; they were reviewed for keying accuracy to ensure that the computer edit actions were correct. If the results of the computer edit were not acceptable, corrections were made and the record was reedited.

**Table D. Reliability Estimates of State Totals for Farms With Sales of \$10,000 or More:
1992—Con.**

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Total	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Item	Total	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)
POULTRY					
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory	farms--	1 671	Tobacco	farms--	1 763
number--	23 148 418	.1	acres--	83 292	1.8
Hens and pullets of laying age	farms--	1 632	pounds--	16 697 236	1.8
number--	19 293 351	.1	acres--	24 733	1.4
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	farms--	319	bushels--	3 619 712	1.0
number--	25 233 810	2.3	farms--	140 787 345	.9
		1.7	acres--	180	2.2
CROPS HARVESTED					
Corn for grain or seed	farms--	28 820	Sugar beets for sugar	farms--	5 833
acres--	3 375 395	1.4	cwt--	1 354 317	.7
bushels--	456 210 424	.9	acres--	227	1.6
Corn for silage or green chop	farms--	6 212	tons--	20 004	1.0
acres--	171 652	1.4	farms--	317 216	.9
tons, green--	2 907 244	1.0	Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass	farms--	17 311
Wheat for grain	farms--	19 834	silage, green chop, etc. (see text)	acres--	865 812
acres--	1 034 952	1.4	tons, dry--	2 373 571	1.2
bushels--	51 880 979	1.0	Alfalfa hay	farms--	13 643
Oats for grain	farms--	5 930	acres--	508 479	1.4
acres--	98 824	1.6	tons, dry--	1 591 746	1.2
bushels--	6 977 858	1.4	Vegetables harvested for sale (see text)	farms--	1 443
			acres--	52 486	.6
			Land in orchards	farms--	564
			acres--	12 143	1.3
					1.2

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Farms with total production expenses equal to market value of agricultural products sold are included as farms with gains of less than \$1,000.

Table F. Reliability Estimates for the State and County Totals: 1992 —Con.

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Geographic area	Selected crops harvested —Con.											
	Soybeans for beans						Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)					
	Farms		Acres		Quantity		Farms		Acres		Quantity	
	Number	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Number	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Bushels	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Number	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Number	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Tons, dry	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)
Pickaway -----	438	1.4	84 952	.9	3 670 386	.9	221	1.9	6 403	2.1	18 032	2.6
Pike -----	66	3.9	8 734	3.9	331 455	3.4	238	1.9	8 767	2.7	16 847	3.7
Portage -----	122	2.3	10 193	2.3	348 892	2.2	467	1.1	15 010	1.5	31 323	1.7
Preble -----	616	1.5	60 960	1.3	2 703 854	1.3	384	1.7	8 814	2.0	23 088	2.3
Putnam -----	1 266	.8	123 304	.9	4 471 915	.9	339	1.4	10 916	1.9	30 830	1.8
Richland -----	396	2.0	30 493	1.7	1 066 207	1.7	533	1.7	16 362	1.8	39 651	1.9
Ross -----	368	1.7	54 201	1.1	2 379 757	1.1	415	1.6	16 116	1.8	34 631	1.7
Sandusky -----	684	1.4	79 772	1.3	2 735 932	1.3	229	2.0	5 167	2.3	15 228	2.3
Scioto -----	85	4.7	10 662	4.0	355 437	4.4	361	2.5	10 609	3.7	21 260	3.8
Seneca -----	1 069	1.6	116 318	1.6	4 184 849	1.6	331	1.8	7 207	2.2	20 726	2.3
Shelby -----	742	1.2	72 419	1.2	2 951 058	1.2	347	1.5	13 408	1.7	40 567	1.5
Stark -----	175	2.1	12 816	1.8	462 222	1.9	673	1.2	25 319	1.3	64 928	1.3
Summit -----	23	5.1	887	4.3	24 756	4.5	94	2.7	2 804	3.3	5 386	3.0
Trumbull -----	201	2.1	13 540	2.7	422 516	2.7	538	1.3	17 942	1.6	41 935	1.8
Tuscarawas -----	66	3.3	3 571	3.5	126 018	3.3	705	1.3	32 726	1.4	87 143	1.4
Union -----	551	1.4	92 126	1.1	3 394 334	1.1	281	1.8	8 391	1.8	23 231	2.0
Van Wert -----	683	.9	107 344	.9	4 439 587	.9	120	2.1	2 266	2.2	7 233	2.2
Vinton -----	11	9.8	659	6.5	19 448	6.8	152	1.6	6 416	2.4	11 714	4.6
Warren -----	326	1.5	39 584	1.6	1 521 511	1.5	281	1.6	6 359	1.9	16 266	2.0
Washington -----	65	3.4	2 736	2.9	109 984	3.0	666	1.1	22 607	1.5	49 107	1.6
Wayne -----	370	1.6	23 133	1.6	914 949	1.5	1 066	1.3	52 006	1.1	157 428	1.1
Williams -----	595	1.8	69 418	1.6	2 364 186	1.6	219	2.3	6 707	3.1	15 306	3.2
Wood -----	882	1.3	119 876	1.2	4 746 713	1.2	210	2.0	4 677	2.5	14 395	2.5
Wyandot -----	563	1.3	86 710	1.0	3 269 030	1.1	151	2.1	4 176	2.4	11 816	2.4
Geographic area	Selected crops harvested —Con.											
	Vegetables harvested for sale (see text)						Acres					
	Farms			Acres								
	Number		Relative standard error of estimate (percent)		Number					Relative standard error of estimate (percent)		
Ohio -----	2 349		1.1				55 024			.6		
Adams -----	16		7.3				33			8.8		
Allen -----	14		6.8				414			2.1		
Ashland -----	34		5.2				431			6.6		
Ashtrabula -----	48		4.5				230			4.1		
Athens -----	13		8.3				27			10.0		
Auglaize -----	3		18.6				(D)			(D)		
Belmont -----	14		7.7				79			11.3		
Brown -----	26		6.4				204			16.4		
Butler -----	38		4.9				152			5.7		
Carroll -----	18		6.6				48			7.8		
Champaign -----	24		4.4				1 453			.2		
Clark -----	21		7.2				201			5.8		
Clermont -----	28		5.5				294			6.3		
Clinton -----	20		6.5				149			6.1		
Columbiana -----	59		4.0				405			4.6		
Coshocton -----	18		7.0				132			6.8		
Crawford -----	9		7.3				72			11.2		
Cuyahoga -----	15		6.0				242			2.0		
Darke -----	29		4.6				628			4.0		
Defiance -----	7		8.7				59			4.7		
Delaware -----	27		6.2				301			4.9		
Erie -----	47		3.8				995			2.3		
Fairfield -----	32		5.1				199			6.4		
Fayette -----	5		13.6				39			17.8		
Franklin -----	30		4.8				403			4.0		
Fulton -----	29		4.0				2 220			1.1		
Gallia -----	15		8.7				42			10.5		
Geauga -----	69		3.8				516			4.9		
Greene -----	39		4.8				414			2.0		
Guernsey -----	5		13.0				24			18.5		
Hamilton -----	33		4.5				656			1.1		
Hancock -----	16		4.4				896			4.8		
Hardin -----	10		7.6				556			2.6		
Harrison -----	8		9.7				20			8.9		
Henry -----	36		3.8				2 474			1.5		
Highland -----	9		8.9				17			7.7		
Hocking -----	12		9.5				62			12.0		
Holmes -----	34		5.0				63			6.6		
Huron -----	32		4.9				6 902			.4		
Jackson -----	10		6.6				161			5.0		
Jefferson -----	6		11.3				32			11.4		
Knox -----	27		6.4				93			9.3		
Lake -----	37		3.8				383			7.7		
Lawrence -----	24		5.5				132			7.9		

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table F. Reliability Estimates for the State and County Totals: 1992 —Con.

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Geographic area	Selected crops harvested —Con.				
	Vegetables harvested for sale (see text)				
	Farms		Acres		
	Number	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)		Number	
Licking -----	35	4.9		251	8.6
Logan -----	16	7.5		493	3.3
Lorain -----	77	3.0	1	359	3.6
Lucas -----	49	3.1	2	125	.7
Madison -----	11	8.2		86	12.9
Mahoning -----	64	3.3		924	3.8
Marion -----	13	8.2		140	9.5
Medina -----	56	3.7		459	5.9
Meigs -----	63	3.5	1	258	3.5
Mercer -----	20	6.7		130	7.6
Miami -----	22	6.1	1	249	1.3
Monroe -----	9	7.0		58	14.2
Montgomery -----	34	4.9		422	8.2
Morgan -----	5	12.8		36	24.6
Morrow -----	10	12.6		26	15.1
Muskingum -----	25	5.2		174	10.5
Noble -----	1	41.9	(D)		(D)
Ottawa -----	23	3.9	1	934	.5
Paulding -----	1	—	(D)		(D)
Perry -----	13	8.3		30	5.4
Pickaway -----	22	5.3		485	4.0
Pike -----	4	18.0		18	25.1
Portage -----	62	3.6	1	424	6.6
Preble -----	22	6.7		82	8.3
Putnam -----	46	3.5	3	350	1.7
Richland -----	23	6.5		150	6.9
Ross -----	15	9.0		86	8.7
Sandusky -----	73	2.4	4	896	1.3
Scioto -----	27	6.2		366	6.7
Seneca -----	15	3.8	1	471	1.5
Shelby -----	5	12.8		39	27.8
Stark -----	94	2.9	1	922	3.1
Summit -----	38	4.7	1	184	3.9
Trumbull -----	63	3.2		272	5.2
Tuscarawas -----	20	6.3		199	1.5
Union -----	14	7.8		45	9.6
Van Wert -----	3	17.7		10	6.9
Vinton -----	3	18.6		4	22.2
Warren -----	43	4.2		449	7.2
Washington -----	36	4.8		639	4.2
Wayne -----	54	3.8		272	8.2
Williams -----	18	5.4		550	3.1
Wood -----	50	3.2	2	916	1.6
Wyandot -----	6	9.4	(D)		(D)

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

**Table G. State Estimates of the Not on the Mail List Component of Farm Coverage Error:
1992**

[Detail may not add to total due to rounding. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	Census published farms		Not on mail list ¹		Percent not on mail list ¹	
	Total (number)	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Total (number)	Relative standard error of estimate (percent)	Total (percent)	Standard error of percent
Farms ----- number	70 711	1.1	10 443	18.0	12.9	2.1
Land in farms ----- acres	14 247 969	1.0	440 760	22.2	3.0	.6
Average size of farm ----- acres	201.5	.3	42.2	17.9	(X)	(X)
Farms by size:						
Less than 10 acres -----	5 417	1.1	3 522	29.2	39.4	7.2
10 to 49 acres -----	15 295	1.0	4 054	28.5	21.0	4.7
Less than 50 acres -----	20 712	1.0	7 576	21.6	26.8	4.4
50 acres or more -----	49 999	1.2	2 867	32.6	5.4	1.7
50 to 99 acres -----	13 988	1.1	2 135	41.5	13.2	4.8
100 to 179 acres -----	13 880	1.3	434	63.0	3.0	1.9
180 acres or more -----	22 131	1.3	298	48.5	1.3	.6
Harvested cropland ----- farms	62 535	1.1	6 333	21.5	9.2	1.8
acres	9 790 327	1.0	176 857	30.4	1.8	.5
Farms by value of sales:						
Less than \$1,000 -----	6 421	1.3	3 767	31.3	37.0	7.3
\$1,000 to \$2,499 -----	7 509	1.2	3 032	32.4	28.8	6.6
Less than \$2,500 -----	13 930	1.2	6 799	23.1	32.8	5.1
\$2,500 or more -----	56 781	1.2	3 644	25.2	6.0	1.4
\$2,500 to \$9,999 -----	18 824	.9	1 907	33.8	9.2	2.8
\$10,000 or more -----	37 957	1.4	1 737	40.1	4.4	1.7
Market value of agricultural products sold \$1,000	3 914 040	.7	48 732	29.0	1.2	.4
Farms by standard industrial classification:						
Crops (01) -----	41 797	1.1	3 945	25.3	8.6	2.0
Livestock (02) -----	28 914	1.0	6 498	21.7	18.4	3.4
Farms by type of organization:						
Individual or family -----	60 936	1.1	9 930	18.8	14.0	2.3
Partnership or corporation -----	9 462	1.1	513	61.2	5.1	3.0
Other -----	313	1.9	—	(X)	—	(X)
Farms by tenure of operator:						
Full owners -----	41 342	1.0	8 115	20.6	16.4	2.9
Part owners and tenants -----	29 369	1.2	2 328	31.7	7.3	2.2
Part owners -----	21 876	1.2	1 461	44.2	6.3	2.6
Tenants -----	7 493	1.5	867	42.6	10.4	4.0
Operators by place of residence:						
On farm operated -----	54 856	1.1	7 142	20.7	11.5	2.1
Not on farm operated -----	11 805	1.2	1 362	42.9	10.3	4.0
Not reported -----	4 050	1.1	1 939	40.4	32.4	9.3
Operators by principal occupation:						
Farming -----	34 604	1.2	1 598	39.7	4.4	1.7
Other -----	36 107	1.0	8 468	18.8	19.0	3.0
Operators by sex:						
Male -----	66 482	1.1	9 795	18.5	12.8	2.1
Female -----	4 229	1.1	648	69.3	13.3	8.0
Operators by race:						
White -----	70 468	1.1	10 067	17.7	12.5	2.0
Black and other races -----	243	2.2	—	(X)	—	(X)
Operators by years on present farm:						
4 years or less -----	7 648	1.4	1 720	30.8	18.4	4.6
5 years or more -----	51 955	1.1	6 180	23.3	10.6	2.2
Average years on present farm -----	20.3	1.5	15.2	25.8	(X)	(X)
Not reported -----	11 108	1.1	2 544	37.2	18.6	5.9
Average age of operator -----	52.0	.1	49.3	17.3	(X)	(X)

NOTE: These estimates do not account for incorrectly classified farms or farms appearing more than once in the census and are subject to change in the 1992 Coverage Evaluation publication. See appendix C text for further explanation.

¹Estimates are based on a sample survey conducted independently of census data collection.